



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

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The next **meeting** is at the
Simi Senior Center,
 3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.
Thursday April 9, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza** Night is at
Toppers Pizza, 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley
Thursday April 2, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Spring Picnic

The club is having a picnic at the usual Rancho Madera Community Park.
 The date is **Saturday, May 16**, 9 AM to 12. Dust off your radio! We might try something different than the usual burgers and hot dogs...



April 2026

A selection of NETS

Monday	Condor Connection (Plays Newslane)	7:00 PM	Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7
Tuesday	County ACS HF net	6:30 PM	Summer 7.242 +/- Winter 3.987 +/-
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Simplex net	6:45 PM	145.510 MHz Simplex
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Repeater net	7:00 PM	Simi Repeater 146.805 -0.6 MHz PL 100.0
	ATN-CA Net	7:30 PM	https://www.atn-tv.com
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Wednesday	Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	28.34 MHz
	Mesh VOIP Net* Voice / video / data	8:00 PM	2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh
Thursday	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Saturday	SSARC SSB HF Net	8:30 AM	7.240 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter
	CW-QRP	9:00 AM	7.032 MHz
	Quad Squad net	1:00 PM	21.365 MHz
Sunday	The Newbie net	7:00 PM	Bozo Repeater 147.885 –0.6 MHz PL 127.3
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
	SSARC 2 Meter Net**	8:30 PM	447.640 UHF repeater - PL is 131.8 Hz

Additional listings of **MORE** local nets can be found on the CVARC web site at: <http://www.cvarc.org>

* For more information, see <http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/>

Our Sunday night net at 8:30 on 447.640 UHF repeater - PL is 131.8 Hz:

April 5 Brian KM6MIN
 12 Kevin KD6UTC
 19 Matt N3AR
 26 Ron K6RIN

May 3 Kerwyn N6YHX
 10 Matt KN6SEC
 17 Brian KM6MIN
 24 Kevin KD6UTC
 31 Matt N3AR

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ACS/ARES Corner

Frank Valdez KI6OQ is the Area 1 Emergency Coordinator

We are always looking for ACS members that would like to become Net Controllers. You will receive hands-on training at the Simi Valley PD (where we normally conduct the Weekly Net). It is both fun and at times challenging. You will gain valuable experience in running a controlled Net as well as becoming more than just familiar with the equipment in the Radio Room at the PD. If you would like to volunteer for this, just message Frank Valdez at frankki6oq@gmail.com.



The **Area 1** (Simi Valley) net occurs **Tuesdays**. Generally it is just a brief check in, but usually some news about upcoming events is passed on. **Stop by and say Hi**. You do not have to do anything other than check in to test out your simplex or repeater connection.

The Tuesday **HF net** during summer months is on 7.242 +/- at **6:30 PM**.

During the winter, it is back to 3.987 lower side band.

The Tuesday **simplex net** is on 145.510 at **6:45 PM**.

The Tuesday **repeater net** is on the 146.805 (-0.6 MHz, PL 100) repeater at **7:00 PM**.

NOTE: Please be advised that we hold the Tuesday **countywide** net at 19:30 (7:30PM) on the Sulphur Mountain WD6EBY repeater 145.200, minus 600 KHz offset, CTCSS of 127.3. Until further notice, this will be our standard frequency for countywide communications.

Visit vccomm.org for more updates.

For the Tuesday night nets, our net control will be:

7-Apr-26 Bill Woods	AB6BW	ORT
14-Apr-26 Dante Smith	W6JCQ	
21-Apr-26 Lisa Trent	KK6AKR	
28-Apr-26 Frank Valdez	KI6OQ	ACS
5-May-26 Ron Nelson	K6RIN	
12-May-26 Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	
19-May-26 Bill Woods	AB6BW	
26-May-26 Dante Smith	W6JCQ	

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Member Updates

Presentation YouTube Link - March Meeting by Matt N3AR

The presentation by Mark Smith has been uploaded to YouTube - if you missed it, here's an opportunity to see and hear from him. If you saw it, you could revisit that glorious day. Links to the slides are in the description of the video, for any who wanted the slide deck.

<https://youtu.be/tp5zv5SiiMk>

J-Pole Antenna Workshop by Ron K6RIN

Looks like Brian KM6MIN, Kerwin N6YHX, Mat KN6SEC and a guest had a productive session at Rons home.



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Thank you Ron, for putting on this event.

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New Mobile Radio platform? by Eric KE6MLF

Alas, I think the Toyota Tacoma is to be sent off to the cornfield.

Cracked windshield, leaf springs are flat, worn transmission synchromesh makes shifting mushy, AND it over heated. I don't want to spend any time fixing and debugging a car with 350,000 miles on it. Meanwhile, I have my choice of three other cars to drive that are just sitting. I think the fun one is going to be a **2013 Smart Brabus**, with some incredible features:

Small - can park anywhere !

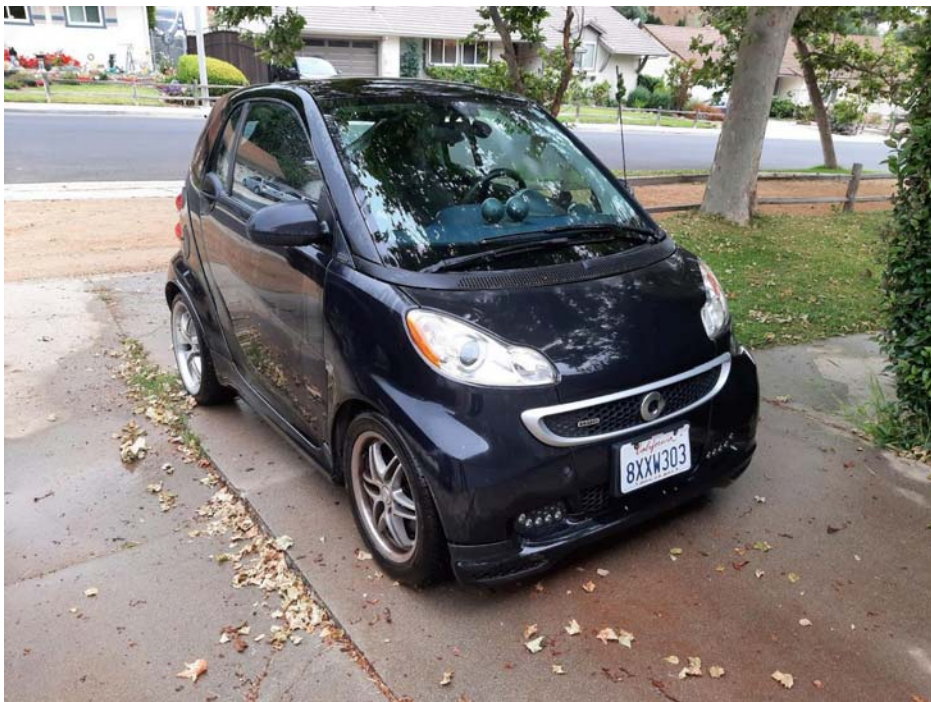
Black - so slimming when I put my fat self in it !

1.0 Liters - the "Brabus" edition has 110 hp instead of the standard 70 ! Zippy go cart !

The problem is installing a radio in this car. It has plastic body panels, and any RF from an antenna can get back inside to annoy the car electronics. And where can I fit a mobile radio in this tiny thing? Maybe just an HT?

How about one of the small Btech radios or are they too noisy?

The biggest problem is the glass roof, so where to put an antenna and get a ground plane?



Mesh Updates by Orv W6BI

With Donnie's aid today, we got the AREDN network (mostly) straightened out in the hospital radio room. I've configured all the local devices with appropriate names (PC, printer, phone).

The Winlink setup there can now use the various Winlink post offices on the AREDN network if desired. Unknown if it's actually configured that way yet in that Winlink or not.

The 5 GHz link up to SimiNorth is solid. The node on the hospital roof is an older generation, but there's enough bandwidth for anything we might need it for.

There's an old 2 GHz node up on the roof that's pointed at the west parking lot. This was a contingency in case for some reason we couldn't use the radio room during an incident. I noticed it's off the air. If you guys think we may need it in the future, we can troubleshoot it and repair/replace as necessary.

The password for both the Mikrotik ac3 and the Ubiquiti Toughswitch are now the same, and it's on the back panel of the ac3.

And a bit later:

We have Internet access in the ham room at SVH now. Here's the deal: They won't give us wired Internet access due to security concerns. But it wouldn't work anyway, for the same reason wireless access won't work.

That's because both AREDN and Adventist Health use 10.x.x.x addresses, which is bad news for us. It totally messes up AREDN network routing. EXCEPT - AREDN software is smart enough to look for Internet access wherever it can. So without access to SVH's network, it goes out over the AREDN network looking. In our case, it goes up to the node on the roof, up to SimiNorth (a very robust link), over to my house (on another strong link) and out my (now) 2 GBit/second Ethernet. :-)

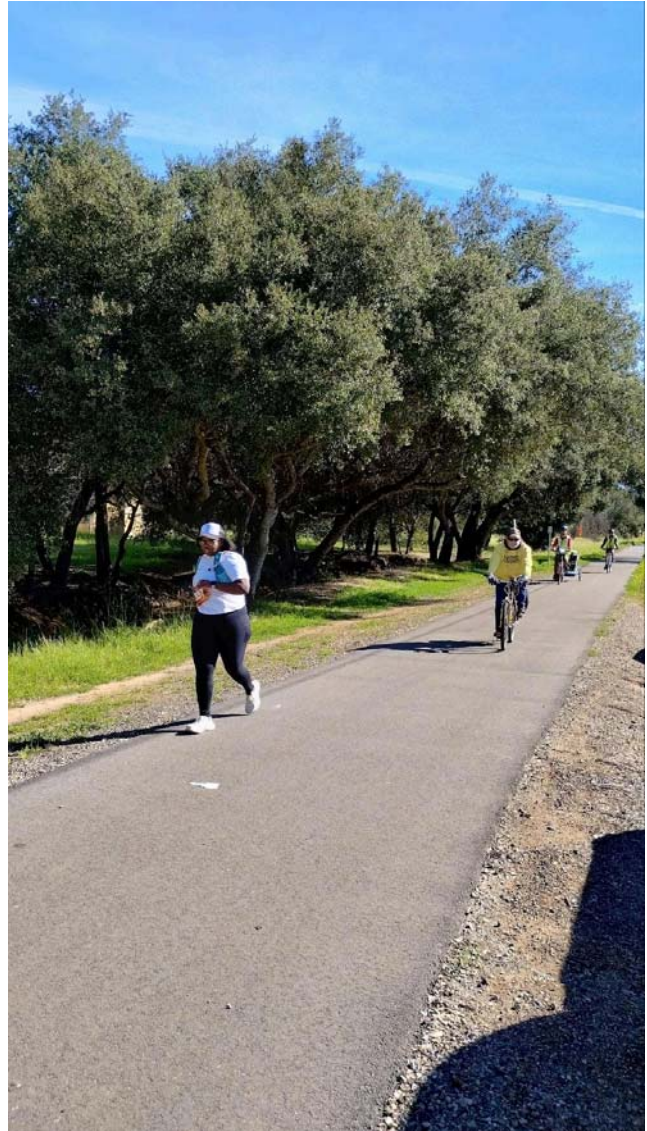
And it's probably at least as robust as SVH's Internet: SimiNorth has lots of power, thanks to Donnie's efforts. At my place, I have solar power/batteries, the house has been seismically reinforced, and most of the gear in the shack is either in a rack bolted to the wall, or otherwise secured.

So I think it'll work OK.

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Ventura Marathon by Joe W6JWP

Last month, Ventura County Amateurs supported the Ventura Marathon, along the bike path from Ojai to Ventura. Looks like Larry K6LWG, Chester K1GHM, and Victor W2AYZ on bikes with the last runner.



On Sunday April 19, the whole gang is out again for the Mountains to Beach marathon.

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Packet ramblings by Eric KE6MLF

Frank KI6OQ, Donnie KJ6TTIN, and Bill W6BW are working to get the packet and digital stuff working at both the PD and the hospital.

Did the TNC at the hospital croak? It used to work, but started giving problems about the same time as the installation of paging system electronics in the radio room. I gave it a new battery and a hard reset, but it was not completely working until Frank and Donnie entered a bunch of commands.

In any case, I spent a bit of time refreshing my home setup. It works just fine, but I am stuck in a rut just sending my ACS checkins. **30 years ago**, we used to have great fun connecting around to various Bulletin Board Systems (BBS) to catch up on all the latest info. Anyway, it's still a great mode for short digital messaging.

Here is a connection to the PD:

```
cmd:c simeoc
cmd:*** CONNECTED to SIMEOC
[KPC3P-USB-9.1-HM$]
98728 BYTES AVAILABLE IN 6 BLOCK(S)
THERE ARE 4 MESSAGES NUMBERED 1149-1157
ENTER COMMAND: B,J,K,L,R,S, or Help >
b
*** DISCONNECTED
```

Here is what the hospital used to do:

```
cmd:c hpsv
cmd:*** CONNECTED to HPSV
```

It would just sit there, and have no response. **Now the guys got it all fixed up:**

```
cmd:c hpsv
cmd:*** CONNECTED to HPSV
[KAM-XL-1.0-HM$]
204400 BYTES AVAILABLE IN 50 BLOCKS
THERE ARE NO MESSAGES
Welcome to the Simi Valley Hospital Mailbox
ENTER COMMAND: B,J,K,L,R,S, or Help >
b
*** DISCONNECTED
```

But, here is a connection to the South Mountain digipeater:

```
cmd:c south
cmd:*** CONNECTED to SOUTH
###CONNECTED TO NODE SOUTH(KE6NYT) CHANNEL A
This is the South Mountain Gateway 145.050/223.580 KE6NYT
ENTER COMMAND: B,C,J,N,X, or Help ?
b
*** DISCONNECTED
```

Note that there is a "C" command to link forward to another station.

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At my home station, I had no C! **I want a C!** Turns out I had to READ THE MANUAL (gasp!) and set **NUMNODES** to something other than 0. At least that is working fine now.

The next step for me is to differentiate the following:

MYCALL - thats me!

MYALIAS - like HSPSV or SIMEOC, probably not much use for me unless I get signed a "tactical" callsign

MYPBBS - where you go to leave me a message

MYNODE - enables the node, so you can connect forward

also:

MYGATE - used for cross port digipeating, VHF to HF - useful?

MYREMOTE - used for remote access to the command list - probably not used much

Perhaps we need to standardize all the "MY" commands in the local area?

When I go to the PD or hospital, is the alias the same as the PBBS where you leave a message?

One more thing is fishy. When other stations hear me (even though I have no BEACON going), I am seen as **KE6MLF-15**. Just where did the -15 come from?

More reading, and examining the commands Donnie put in to the hospital TNC.

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Internet Resources

simisettlers.org - us!

cvarc.org - Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club

k6mep.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Club

vcars.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Society

pvarc.club - The home of many of the counties repeaters

arednmesh.org - Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network

vccomm.org - Ventura County ACS / ARES

www.arrl.org - American Radio Relay League

archive.org/details/simi-settlers-arc - Our old newsletters!

qrz.com - forums, for sale, articles - **Create your profile here!**

eham.net - forums, for sale, articles (kind of a zombie site)

www.theborednet.net - a local bulletin board including net schedules and **stuff** for sale!

Under the **groups.io** banner (a free account is required):

groups.io/g/SimiSettlers/messages - A great place to post

groups.io/g/SIMI-VALLEY-HAMMESHNET/messages

vc-ac.s.groups.io/g/main/messages

vc-ac.s.groups.io/g/area-1/messages

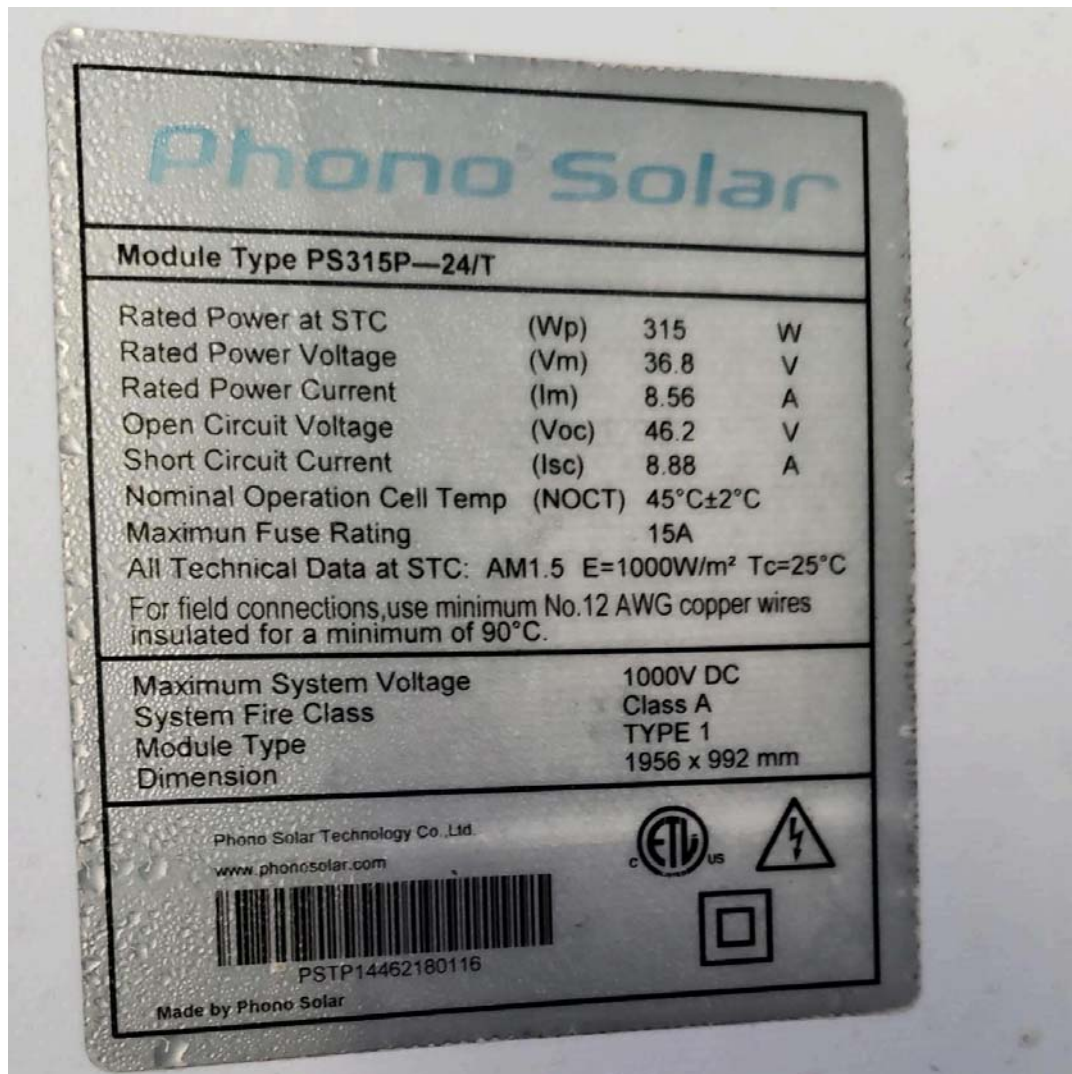
SSARC Marketplace

This section of the newsletter is for Simi Settler club members to post various used or previously owned items for sale that they may no longer have a need or use of. Please submit a brief description of the sale items (along with a photo if possible) and suggested price to Eric Oberg KE6MLF, the newsletter editor, at least two days before newsletter publication. It is suggested that a portion of each sale be donated to the SSARC treasury to help support the club's several activities. The term "OBO" means "Or Best Offer" and serves only as a starting point in negotiating a fair price.

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From Orv W6BI

For Sale - 315 watt solar panels - \$50 each. Lightly-used prior to being taken out of service. Four available. Funds will be directed towards Simi Valley repeater maintenance



LAFAYETTE RADIO MODEL TE-50 TUBE TESTER



This portable tube tester from Lafayette Radio is perfect for testing vacuum tubes from classic radios and television receivers sold back in the day. It has eight tube sockets capable of testing standard Octal, Loctal, 7-pin miniature, 9-pin miniature types as well as well as 9- and 12-pin Compactron tubes and nuvistor tubes that were popular back in the 1950's and 1960's. Tests include leakage, shorts and tube emission (e.g.- gain or μ -measurements). The tester includes a slide-out chart drawer plus supplemental charts for newer-type tubes listing the required selector switch and slide switch settings for each tube under test including a test clip for testing tubes with high-voltage anode top caps such as those used for horizontal sweep circuits of earlier televisions. Similar Lafayette Model TE-50 Tube Testers are listed on E-Bay for \$99.99 or more.

Condition: Very Good Price: \$5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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From Glenn WA6GNB

GrandStream # 1620/1625 telephone for sale. New – still in the original box. Compatible with our MESH system. \$30.00 Contact Glen at gnb.2112@yahoo.com

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From Joe W6JWP

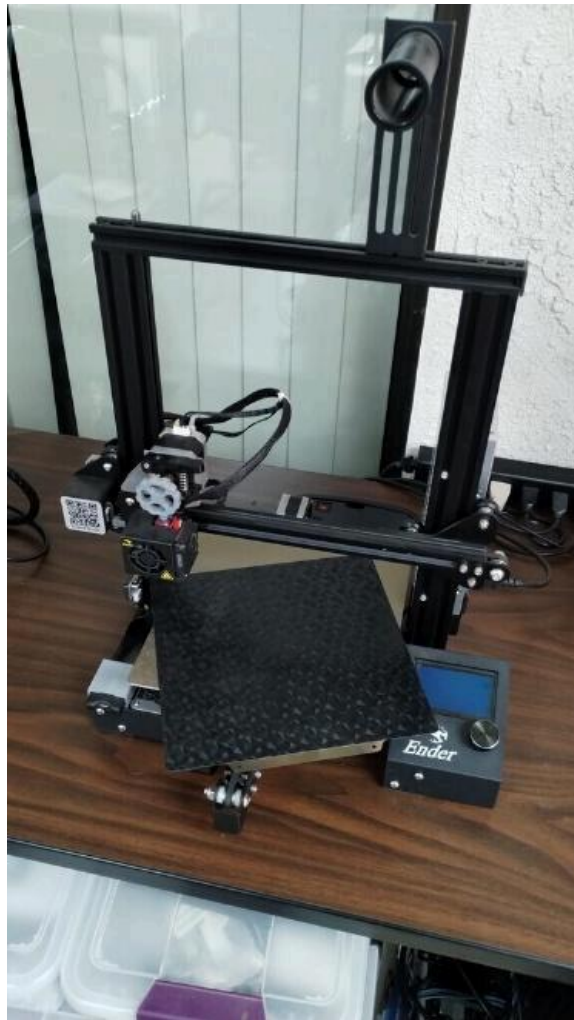
Ender 3 v1 3D FDM Printer

Modified for direct drive.

Upgraded flexible magnetic steel bed. Includes a spare textured steel bed.

Good basic machine

\$75.00 or best offer.



Contact joe.w6jwp@gmail.com

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Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: <http://www.simisetters.org/index.htm>
 Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC>
 Mail: P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, CA 93062-2125

Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	Matt Kaufman	N3AR	(818) 425-0920	matt.d.kaufman@gmail.com
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN	(805) 797-6315	rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745	ericoberg1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	VACANT			
Raffle Prizes	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Youth Coordinator	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Food Services	VACANT			
Room Coordinator	VACANT			
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019	AB6BW1@gmail.com
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Advisor Morse Code	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Advisor Mesh	Orv Beach	W6BI		orv.beach@gmail.com

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Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisetters.org)

Membership Application



Type of Application:

New Member ☐
Renewal ☐

Type of Membership:

Individual (\$25/yr) ☐
Family (\$30/yr) ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Alt. Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Additional Family Members:

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Badges requested: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X \$18.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

Shirt Printing: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X \$25.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____ (Self Supplied Polo Shirt, no emblem or pocket)

Hats Requested: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X \$20.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Application type: New ☐ Renewal ☐ Membership type: Individual ☐ Family ☐

Date Received: _____ Amount Received: _____ Database completed: _____

Badges and Shirts ordered: _____

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